



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Phoenix District
Hassayampa Field Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85027
www.blm.gov/az/

In Reply Refer To:
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AZA-03594701

June 30, 2017

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING

In 2012, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Hassayampa Field Office received an application from Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department (MCPRD) for a Recreation & Public Purposes Act (R&PP) lease of approximately 1,046 acres located in Maricopa County, Arizona (see attached Map). The R&PP Act allows for State and local governments to apply for the leasing of public lands for the construction and maintenance of facilities such as schools, fire stations, and for parks.

The MCPRD has requested a lease of the public lands for the construction and maintenance of recreational facilities including:

- A campground with approximately 80 campsites with electric and water hook-up sites and walk-in tent camping;
- Ancillary facilities including a recreation vehicle dump station, entry station and maintenance compound, and park host sites; and
- Day use facilities including a nature center, ramadas, amphitheater, restrooms, trails and signage.

The BLM has also received an application from the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to amend their existing right-of-way for the Vulture Mine Road. An application from MCDOT is necessary because as a part of the recreation facility development, a portion of the Vulture Mine Road would be realigned to straighten a tight curve and also provide for a singular point of entry between the campground and day use facilities.

In order for the BLM to process the lease request, the BLM will need to complete an environmental assessment (EA). The EA will include two opportunities for public participation. We are providing you notification of the first opportunity for this public scoping. Public participation is a requirement of both the National Environmental Policy Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

The upcoming EA will consider public comments received during this scoping period. The EA will analyze the direct, indirect and cumulative effects from the lease of approximately 1,046 acres of public lands to MCPRD. The BLM will provide a second 30-day public review opportunity and open house when the "draft" EA has been prepared, anticipated in early 2018.

At this early stage, the BLM has scheduled the following open house:

Thursday July 13, 2017 from 6 – 8 pm
Wickenburg Community Center
160 N Valentine Street
Wickenburg, Arizona 85390

During this open house-style meeting, staff from the BLM, MCPRD, and MCDOT will be available, along with maps of the proposed facilities for review. The BLM will “kick-off” the open house with a presentation at 6:15 pm.

This 30-day public scoping period is from June 30 until July 29, 2017.

Information on this project will be available at the following website: <http://bit.ly/2qnhEPm>

Comments on the proposed project can be submitted the following ways:

- Electronically by emailing them to: vulturemnts@blm.gov
- You may mail your comments to: BLM Hassayampa Field Office, ATTN: Jim Andersen
21605 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85027.
- You may fax your comments to: Jim Andersen at 623-580-5580.

Privacy notice: Before including your address, phone number, email address, or any other personal identifying information in your comments, be advised that your entire comment(s), including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request that the BLM withhold personal identifying information from public view, the BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so. If you wish to withhold your personal information, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment(s). We will make all submissions from organizations and businesses available for public disclosure in their entirety.

If you have questions, please contact Jim Andersen at 623-580-5500 or vulturemnts@blm.gov.

Sincerely,



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Field Manager
Hassayampa Field Office